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STANDISH-WITH-LANGTREE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

together with the

Report of the  
Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1958

ROGER & RENNICK  
PRINTERS, WIGAN



# STANDISH-WITH-LANGTREE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL :

Councillor A. BENTHAM, J.P.

## VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL :

Councillor F. T. PAGETT, J.P.

## MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL :

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Councillor B. BOULT

Councillor E. GARNER

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J.P., C.C.

Councillor Mrs. M. E. TURNER

Councillor J. WILKINSON

*The Health, Sanitation and Housing Committee, consisting of all the Members of the Council, is the Committee having charge of matters of public health within the Urban District.*

## CHAIRMAN OF THE HEALTH, SANITATION AND HOUSING COMMITTEE :

Councillor E. GARNER

## VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE HEALTH, SANITATION AND HOUSING COMMITTEE :

Councillor Mrs. M. E. TURNER

## CLERK OF THE COUNCIL :

D. CHISHOLM, Esq.

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

G. H. POTTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR and CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

B. L. PARKER, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

*Standish-with-Langtree Urban District Council*

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Public Health Department,  
Ashfield House,  
Standish.  
Telephone : Standish 2012.

June, 1959

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Standish-with-Langtree Urban District Council*

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the Annual Report upon the health of Standish for the year 1958.

As in previous years it has been compiled in the manner indicated by the Ministry of Health Circular.

I wish to thank you for the very kind interest taken in the matters affecting the health and sanitation of the Urban District. I would also like to extend my thanks to Mr. B. L. Parker and other members of the staff for their valuable assistance during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

G. H. POTTER,  
Medical Officer of Health.

## GENERAL STATISTICS

|                                                                        |          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Population (Preliminary Census, 1951) .....                            | 8,991    |
| Registrar-General's estimated mid-year (1958) home population .....    | 9,110    |
| Acreage of District .....                                              | 3,266    |
| Number of inhabited houses at end of 1958 according to rate book ..... | 3,157    |
| Rateable Value (1-4-1958) .....                                        | £83,456  |
| Product of Penny Rate (Actual 31-3-1958) .....                         | £318/3/7 |

## PHYSICAL FEATURES AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Standish-with-Langtree Urban District is pleasantly situated North of the County Borough of Wigan and adjoining it.

The Rural District of Wigan lies to the East and West and the Rural District of Chorley to the North.

The maximum distance between the boundaries is about 5 miles and the height of the district above sea level varies from 88-375 feet.

The geological formation is of black loamy soil having generally a sandy sub-soil and in the Eastern parts there are considerable strata of hard rock. The district is rich in coal seams at varying depths.

The district is typically urban in character and its chief industries are Coal Mining, Agriculture, Food Canning and Bottling, Brewing Beer and the Manufacture of Textiles.

## VITAL STATISTICS

### BIRTHS.

|                    | <i>Live Births—number registered</i> |               |              |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
|                    | <i>Male</i>                          | <i>Female</i> | <i>Total</i> |
| Legitimate .....   | 69                                   | 52            | 121          |
| Illegitimate ..... | 2                                    | 2             | 4            |

The live birth-rates per 1,000 of estimated home population are :—

|                            |             |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Crude Rate .....           | 13.7        |
| Adjusted Rate .....        | 14.5 (16.4) |
| Comparability factor ..... | 1.06        |

|                    | <i>Stillbirths—number registered</i> |               |              |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
|                    | <i>Male</i>                          | <i>Female</i> | <i>Total</i> |
| Legitimate .....   | 4                                    | 3             | 7            |
| Illegitimate ..... | Nil                                  | Nil           | Nil          |

The stillbirth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births is 53 (21.6).

DEATHS.

| <i>Deaths (all causes)—number registered</i> |               |              |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| <i>Male</i>                                  | <i>Female</i> | <i>Total</i> |
| 57                                           | 53            | 110          |

The mortality rates per 1,000 of estimated home population are :—

|                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Total (all causes): Crude Rate ..... | 12.1        |
| Adjusted Rate .....                  | 13.6 (11.7) |
| Comparability factor ...             | 1.13        |
| Respiratory Tuberculosis .....       | Nil (0.09)  |
| Malignant Neoplasms (cancer) .....   | 1.43 (2.12) |

Maternal Mortality.

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during the year. The maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total births is nil.

Infant Mortality (deaths of infants under 1 year of age).

|                    | <i>Number registered</i> |               |              |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|
|                    | <i>Male</i>              | <i>Female</i> | <i>Total</i> |
| Legitimate .....   | 2                        | Nil           | 2            |
| Illegitimate ..... | Nil                      | Nil           | Nil          |

The infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births is 16 (22.5)

Neo-Natal Mortality (deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age).

|                    | <i>Number registered</i> |               |              |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|
|                    | <i>Male</i>              | <i>Female</i> | <i>Total</i> |
| Legitimate .....   | 2                        | Nil           | 2            |
| Illegitimate ..... | Nil                      | Nil           | Nil          |

The neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births is 16 (16.2)

CANCER : Nineteen deaths occurred in 1958—12 males and 7 females compared with 18 deaths—12 males and 6 females in 1957.

Facilities for Radium treatment for Standish residents are available at the Manchester Radium Institute and at the Wigan Infirmary Clinic.

*Figures in parenthesis are corresponding figures for England and Wales*

| DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES:—                     | M. |     | F. |
|----------------------------------------------|----|-----|----|
| Malignant neoplasm (stomach) .....           | I  | ... | I  |
| Malignant neoplasm (lung-bronchus) .....     | 3  | ... | —  |
| Malignant neoplasm (breast) .....            | —  | ... | I  |
| Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...  | 4  | ... | 2  |
| Leukaemia—aleukaemia .....                   | —  | ... | I  |
| Vascular lesions of nervous system .....     | 9  | ... | 12 |
| Coronary disease—angina .....                | 18 | ... | 3  |
| Hypertension with heart disease .....        | —  | ... | 3  |
| Other heart disease .....                    | 4  | ... | 13 |
| Other circulatory disease .....              | —  | ... | I  |
| Influenza .....                              | I  | ... | 6  |
| Pneumonia .....                              | —  | ... | 2  |
| Bronchitis .....                             | 6  | ... | 3  |
| Other diseases of the respiratory system ... | I  | ... | I  |
| Nephritis and nephrosis .....                | I  | ... | I  |
| Hyperplasia of prostate .....                | I  | ... | —  |
| Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..... | 5  | ... | 2  |
| All other accidents .....                    | 2  | ... | I  |
| Suicide .....                                | I  | ... | —  |
| <hr/>                                        |    |     |    |
| TOTAL (all causes) ...                       | 57 | ... | 53 |

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

### LABORATORY FACILITIES

Specimens are sent to the Group Laboratory of the Wigan and Leigh Hospital Management Committee at the Wigan Royal Infirmary for examination. Use is also made of the facilities of the Public Health Laboratory Service at Manchester and Liverpool.

These arrangements have proved quite satisfactory.

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The duty of providing an Ambulance Service devolves upon the Lancashire County Council as the Local Authority under the National Health Service Act. An Ambulance Station to cover the needs of Standish is established at Ashfield House. The service is quite satisfactory.

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Twenty-two cases of Infectious Diseases were notified to the Department during the year compared with 77 cases during 1957.

Perusal of the accompanying table will show the notably low incidence of the various diseases and the age groups affected.

**Food Poisoning.**—No known cases of Food Poisoning occurred within the Urban District during the year.

**General.**—In accordance with the provisions of the National Health Service Acts, a copy of each notification of an infectious disease, including food poisoning, has to be sent by the Department to the Local Health Authority within 12 hours, if possible, and in any case within 48 hours after its receipt.

Other Returns relating to the prevalence of and deaths from Notifiable Infectious Diseases have to be sent to the Registrar-General and the County Medical Officer of Health at weekly and quarterly intervals.

## IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

The following statistics show the number of children resident in Standish who were immunised and vaccinated during the year.

| <i>Type of prophylactic</i>                                  | <i>Pre-School<br/>Children</i> | <i>School<br/>Children</i> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Triple Antigen (Diphtheria-Whooping Cough and Tetanus) ..... | 97 .....                       | 7                          |
| Diphtheria Re-inforcing Injections                           | 1 .....                        | 168                        |
| Poliomyelitis : Primary .....                                | 220 .....                      | 486                        |
| Re-inforcing .....                                           | 3 .....                        | 11                         |
| Smallpox Vaccinations .....                                  | 62 .....                       | 7                          |

# CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1958

| NOTIFIABLE DISEASES     | Total Cases<br>at all ages | TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED<br>AGE PERIODS — YEARS |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    | 65 and<br>over | age un-<br>known | Total<br>Deaths |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
|                         |                            | 0                                           | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 10 | 15 | 25 | 45 |                |                  |                 |
| Scarlet fever .....     | 1                          | —                                           | — | — | — | — | 1 | —  | —  | —  | —  | —              | —                | —               |
| Whooping Cough ...      | 2                          | —                                           | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | —  | —  | —  | —  | —              | —                | —               |
| Measles (excl. rubella) | 14                         | 1                                           | 1 | 2 | — | 2 | 7 | 1  | —  | —  | —  | —              | —                | —               |
| Tuberculosis (Resp.)    | 5                          | —                                           | — | — | — | — | — | —  | —  | 3  | 1  | 1              | —                | —               |
| TOTALS                  | 22                         | 1                                           | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 1  | —  | 3  | 1  | 1              | —                | —               |

## TUBERCULOSIS

This service is under the control of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board which provides facilities for the treatment of cases of Tuberculosis. Standish cases attend the Chest Clinic, Millgate, Wigan.

Five new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year compared with six cases last year.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

No action was taken under these Acts in respect of the Removal of Persons in need of Care and Attention.

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## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER SUPPLY

The Council have their own plant (Bell's Mechanical Filters) situated at Green Lane for filtering the water supply.

The water for domestic and trade purposes comes from the reservoir at Anglezarke and is purchased from Liverpool Corporation. A special industrial supply comes from Thirlmere and is purchased from Manchester Corporation.

Before distribution in the district the domestic water supply receives the following treatment:—

Addition of chemicals: Alumina—1 gr. per gallon.

Soda Ash—1 gr. per gallon.

Filtration and chlorination.

The special industrial supply is distributed without treatment. Both domestic and industrial supplies are constant.

The water is of good soft Upland Surface Water in every way well suited for drinking and all domestic purposes.

All houses in the district are supplied from public water mains direct to houses.

**Water Sampling :** The following samples were taken during the year and reports thereon are tabulated opposite :—

# BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS :—

|                                              | UNTREATED WATER |             |             |             |     | FULLY TREATED WATER |             |             |             |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                              | <i>Jan.</i>     | <i>Apl.</i> | <i>July</i> | <i>Oct.</i> |     | <i>Jan.</i>         | <i>Apl.</i> | <i>July</i> | <i>Oct.</i> |
| Bacteria per ml. at 37 deg. C.               | 3               | 5           | 21          | 43          | ... | Nil                 | 1           | 1           | 9           |
| B. Coli. per 100 ml. ....                    | 1               | Nil         | 550         | 45          | ... | Nil                 | Nil         | Nil         | Nil         |
| Total Coliform Organisms<br>per 100 ml. .... | 1               | Nil         | 550         | 70          | ... | Nil                 | Nil         | Nil         | Nil         |
| Class .....                                  | 2               | 1           | 4           | 4           | ... | 1                   | 1           | 1           | 1           |

*Class 1* : Highly Satisfactory.    *Class 2* : Satisfactory.    *Class 3* : Suspicious.  
*Class 4* : Unsatisfactory.

## CHEMICAL ANALYSES (Results — Parts/Million) FULLY TREATED WATER.

|                                           | <i>Jan.</i> | <i>Apl.</i> | <i>July</i> | <i>Oct.</i> |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Solid Matter in solution .....      | 79.0        | 67.6        | 73.2        | 68.6        |
| Oxygen required to oxidise in 15 minutes  | 0.38        | 0.14        | 0.49        | 0.54        |
| Oxygen required to oxidise in 4 hours ... | 0.80        | 0.38        | 0.83        | 1.21        |
| Ammoniacal nitrogen as N .....            | 0.01        | 0.01        | 0.03        | 0.01        |
| Albuminoid nitrogen as N .....            | 0.01        | 0.01        | 0.02        | 0.02        |
| Nitrous Nitrogen as N .....               | None        | None        | None        | None        |
| Nitric Nitrogen as N .....                | Traces      | None        | None        | None        |
| Combined Chlorine .....                   | 12.9        | 11.9        | 12.7        | 9.9         |
| Total hardness .....                      | 38          | 33          | 42          | 31          |
| pH value .....                            | 8.5         | 7.5         | 6.8         | 7.2         |

The water supply is consistently reported upon as a good soft upland surface water free from organic pollution and in every way quite fit for drinking and domestic purposes.

**Re-grouping of Water Undertakings.**—Following the consideration of proposals for the re-grouping of water undertakings—including the Council's water undertaking—the decision of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government was awaited at the end of the year.

REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. B. L. Parker, Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent, has kindly contributed the following report:—

DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

|                                   |     |                                  |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------|-----|
| Butchers' Shops .....             | 15  | Supervision over Refuse—         |     |
| Slaughterhouses .....             | 177 | Collection and Disposal .....    | 236 |
| Bakehouses .....                  | 4   | Dustbin Provision .....          | 400 |
| Fish and Chip Shops .....         | 3   | Housing Act Inspections .....    | 257 |
| Ice-Cream Vendors .....           | 8   | Overcrowding .....               | 1   |
| Cafes and Canteens .....          | 1   | Housing Applications .....       | 5   |
| Public Houses .....               | 29  | Moveable Dwellings .....         | 9   |
| Other Food Premises .....         | 144 | I.D. Inquiries .....             | 2   |
| Dairies .....                     | 1   | Filthy or Verminous Premises ... | 20  |
| Milk Distributors .....           | 51  | Disinfestation of Premises ..... | 18  |
| Hawkers .....                     | 23  | Interviews with Owners, etc ...  | 95  |
| Factories (Mech.) .....           | 25  | Re-Inspection of Notices .....   | 65  |
| Factories (Non-Mech.) .....       | 10  | Rodent Control .....             | 566 |
| P.H.A. Workplaces .....           | 1   | Atmospheric Pollution .....      | 5   |
| Shops under Shops Acts .....      | 275 | Water Supplies .....             | 14  |
| Investigation of Complaints ..... | 66  | Scrap Metal and Marine Store     |     |
| Inspection and Tests Drainage...  | 207 | Dealers .....                    | 1   |
| School Sanitary Accommodation     | 1   | Welfare—Problem Families and     |     |
| Septic Tanks and Cesspools .....  | 45  | Aged Persons .....               | 11  |
| Privy and Pail Closets            |     | Rag and Bone Gatherers .....     | 2   |
| (Conservancy Closets) .....       | 1   | Various Causes .....             | 70  |

Total Number of Inspections: 2,864.

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS OR NUISANCES

| <i>Description</i>                                           | <i>No. discovered<br/>and abated</i> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Defective refuse receptacles ... ..                          | 400                                  |
| Defective or obstructed drainage systems ... ..              | 92                                   |
| Defective windows ... ..                                     | 44                                   |
| Defective brickwork (external walls) ... ..                  | 38                                   |
| Damp-defective and perished wall plaster ... ..              | 36                                   |
| Defective roofs ... ..                                       | 32                                   |
| Defective eaves gutters or rainwater pipes ... ..            | 27                                   |
| Defective or flooded approach paths and yards ... ..         | 21                                   |
| Defective watercloset structures ... ..                      | 20                                   |
| Defective chimney stacks and flues ... ..                    | 19                                   |
| Defective doors and frames ... ..                            | 18                                   |
| Defective watercloset appliances ... ..                      | 15                                   |
| Defective floors ... ..                                      | 15                                   |
| Defective firegrates ... ..                                  | 15                                   |
| Defective cold water service pipes ... ..                    | 13                                   |
| Defective ceilings ... ..                                    | 12                                   |
| Defective or obstructed private sewage disposal plant ... .. | 10                                   |
| Defective or insanitary sink waste pipes ... ..              | 5                                    |
| Offensive odours and accumulations ... ..                    | 4                                    |
| Flooded cellars and sub-floor spaces ... ..                  | 3                                    |

| <i>Description</i>                          |     |     |     |     | <i>No. discovered<br/>and abated</i> |
|---------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------------------|
| Defective or insanitary sinks               | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2                                    |
| External decoration                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2                                    |
| Obstructed eaves gutters or rainwater pipes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1                                    |
| Dangerous boundary walls                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1                                    |
| Defective wash-house structures             | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1                                    |
| Defective hot water systems                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1                                    |
| Filthy or verminous premises                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1                                    |

**Defects or Nuisances :** Number discovered and abated 848

**Number of Notices Served :** Informal—61 Statutory—Nil.

**Legal Proceedings :** Nil.

It will be observed from the foregoing statistics that a continuous inspection of the district is maintained in an endeavour to improve the sanitary circumstances and safeguard the public health.

A matter of some considerable concern is the very prevalent practice of certain inhabitants of the district disposing of garden refuse and other unwanted materials on undeveloped land and along-side roadways—such thoughtless action in disfiguring the district displays a lack of civic pride and little consideration for others.

The fouling of pavements and grass verges by dogs, whose excrementous deposits are no less objectionable than those of human origin, is to be condemned.

But these matters have public health significance in that conditions inimical to health could arise therefrom.

### SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

Except for the following all premises in the district have water closets :—

|                                                 |                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Privy Middens .....                             | 8 (mostly on farms)             |
| Pail Closets (including chemical closets) ..... | 49                              |
|                                                 | (including 21 houses at Gidlow) |
| Waste Water Closets .....                       | 2                               |

During the year 4 pail closets were abolished or discontinued.

A scheme for sewerage the 21 houses at Gidlow into Wigan Corporation's sewerage system is under consideration with a view to the conversion of the 21 pail closets to water closets.

Not many of the remaining conservancy closets can be converted to the water carriage system owing to the absence of a sewerage system and the prohibitive cost of installing small individual sewage disposal plant.

## HOUSING. STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

|                                        | <i>Houses</i> |     | <i>Flats</i> |
|----------------------------------------|---------------|-----|--------------|
| (i) By the local authority .....       | 26            | ... | 48           |
| (ii) By other local authorities .....  | Nil           | ... | Nil          |
| (iii) By other bodies or persons ..... | 132           | ... | Nil          |

### 1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..... 257
- (b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose ..... 322
- (2) Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit :—
- (a) No. found during year ..... 4
- (b) Total number (or estimated No.) existing at end of year ..... 18
- (3) No. of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit ... 137

### 2.—HOUSES DEMOLISHED :—

| In Clearance Areas                                                                         | Houses<br>Demolished | Displaced during<br>year<br>Persons | Families |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| (1) Houses unfit for human habitation .....                                                | Nil                  | Nil                                 | Nil      |
| (2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc. ....                                | Nil                  | Nil                                 | Nil      |
| (3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2), Housing Act, 1957 .....                   | Nil                  | Nil                                 | Nil      |
| Not in Clearance Areas—                                                                    |                      |                                     |          |
| (4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1), Housing Act, 1957 ... | 5                    | 31                                  | 13       |
| (5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health ...      | Nil                  | Nil                                 | Nil      |
| (6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts ...     | Nil                  | Nil                                 | Nil      |
| (7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders                                              | Nil                  | Nil                                 | Nil      |

### 3.—UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED :—

|                                                                         | Number | Displaced during year |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------------|----------|
|                                                                         |        | Persons               | Families |
| (1) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35 (1), Housing Act, 1957 .....     | 1      | 6                     | 1        |
| (2) Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957 .....                | Nil    | Nil                   | Nil      |
| (3) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957 ..... | Nil    | Nil                   | Nil      |

### 4.—UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED :—

|                                               | By    |                 |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------|
|                                               | Owner | Local Authority |
| (1) After informal action by local authority  | 137   | —               |
| (2) After formal notice under—                |       |                 |
| (a) Public Health Acts .....                  | Nil   | Nil             |
| (b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957      | Nil   | Nil             |
| (3) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957 ..... | Nil   | —               |

### 5.—UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE :— (Housing Act, 1957)

|                                                                     | Number of |                                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------|
|                                                                     | houses    | separate dwellings contained in column (1) |
|                                                                     | (1)       | (2)                                        |
| Position at end of year—                                            |           |                                            |
| (1) Retained for temporary accommodation :                          |           |                                            |
| (a) Under Section 48 .....                                          | Nil       | Nil                                        |
| (b) Under Section 17(2) .....                                       | Nil       | Nil                                        |
| (c) Under Section 46 .....                                          | Nil       | Nil                                        |
| (2) Licensed for temporary occupation under Sections 34 or 53 ..... | Nil       | —                                          |

### 6.—PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT :—

|                                                                                                                                                  | No. of occu-     |                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                  | Number of houses | pants of houses in column (1) |
|                                                                                                                                                  | (1)              | (2)                           |
| Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased during the year ..... | Nil              | Nil                           |

7.—*HOUSING ACT, 1949, and HOUSING (Financial Provisions) ACT, 1958—IMPROVEMENT GRANTS, Etc. —*

Action during year—

| <i>Improvement Grants,<br/>etc. :—</i>                  | Private Bodies or ..<br>Individuals |                                                                   | Local Authority   |                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                         | No. of<br>Schemes                   | No. of<br>dwelling<br>houses or<br>other<br>buildings<br>affected | No. of<br>schemes | No. of<br>dwelling<br>houses or<br>other<br>buildings<br>affected |
| Action during year :—                                   |                                     |                                                                   |                   |                                                                   |
| (a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority | 10                                  | 10                                                                | —                 | —                                                                 |
| (b) Approved by local authority .....                   | 10                                  | 10                                                                | —                 | —                                                                 |
| (c) Submitted by local authority to Ministry .....      | Nil                                 | Nil                                                               | Nil               | Nil                                                               |
| (d) Finally approved by Ministry .....                  | Nil                                 | Nil                                                               | Nil               | Nil                                                               |
| (e) Work completed .....                                | 10                                  | 10                                                                | Nil               | Nil                                                               |
| (f) Additional separate dwellings included in (e) above | 2                                   |                                                                   | Nil               |                                                                   |

(g) Any other action taken under the Act (give brief particulars) ..... Nil

8.—*HOUSING ACT, 1957—PART IV—OVERCROWDING :—*

- (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... 2  
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ..... 3  
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ..... 11
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year Nil
- (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 6  
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ..... 36

**HOUSING :** The duty of maintaining an inspection of the housing conditions in the district was continued during the year. Much time was devoted to this important sphere of environmental health work which resulted in the improvement of the housing conditions of many families.

Slum clearance proposals involve 45 unfit houses to be dealt with as Individual Unfit Properties or in Clearance Areas. At the end of the year 18 houses remained to be dealt with.

These proposals—designed to clear the worst of the unfit houses in the district—have received the approval of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Housing conditions in the district are generally fairly good and no serious slum problem exists.

The increase in amount of housing repair work undertaken in the district as a result of the implementation of the provisions of the Rent Act, 1957, noticeably diminished towards the end of the year.

Whilst much good repair work has been achieved in this way, it is true to say that not all repairs carried out were of the desired standard. In some instances, the landlord's objective has been to avail himself of the rent increase at minimum cost in repair work, an attitude quite contrary to that envisaged by the provisions of the Rent Act. Tenants have a remedy, but most seem reluctant to exercise their right to serve further forms "G".

Twenty-four applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received during the year, and, as a result, 14 Certificates of Disrepair were issued and 10 undertakings given by landlords to remedy defects were accepted by the Council. Five applications for the cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair were received but only two Certificates were cancelled.

In this district there are houses which are sub-standard but are not in such a state of disrepair and not so badly arranged as to be included in slum clearance schemes. Many of these houses are a product of the late 19th Century—they are structurally sound but lack what are rightly considered to-day to be essential amenities—and still have a life probably in the region of twenty to thirty years. The residents of these dwellings are normally content to remain where they have lived for most of their lives, but would welcome the improvement of their dwellings to give them the minimum amenities which are expected to-day. Fifty-six dwelling-houses in Standish have so far been satisfactorily improved with monetary assistance through the Council under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958. It is in the National and local interest that the maximum number of houses capable of being brought to this higher standard should be preserved.

At the end of the year there were 204 applicants for Council housing accommodation—approximately 110 requiring 2-bedroom and 40 requiring 3-bedroom type houses—2 requiring larger houses and 52 requiring old peoples bungalows. Whilst a degree of overcrowding exists it does not constitute a serious problem as the foregoing statistics will shew. Investigation into the circumstances of a number of applicants was made and reports prepared for the guidance of the Committee in its endeavours to ensure that applicants with the greatest housing need are re-housed. The number of applicants having an acute housing need is now not so great as it was a year or two ago.

Good progress was made during the year with the erection of new houses for general needs and to re-house a number of families from unfit properties. Schemes are in preparation to build a further 20 houses to meet the needs of slum clearance and 20 bungalows for occupation by aged people.

Standish has attracted considerable private enterprise building within recent years.

The district is seriously affected by active mining subsidence and evidence of damage resulting therefrom can be seen in surface property throughout the area.

All kinds of problems in connection with surface property arise as a result of mining subsidence which render normal day-to-day work more difficult. It is a continuing process which can never be fully assessed.

### DISINFESTATION

The following premises were disinfested during the year for the reasons stated :—

|                                 |                     |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Cockroaches .....               | 14 whole houses.    |
| Silver fish .....               | 1 whole house.      |
| Filthy and verminous conditions | 1 whole house.      |
| Fleas .....                     | 1 room.             |
| Head lice .....                 | 1 room and effects. |

Where the furniture and effects of prospective tenants of Council houses are known to be verminous, disinfestation is carried out in order to prevent infestation of the new premises.

Spraying and dusting with various insecticidal liquids and powders proved to be highly effective.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION

All notified cases of certain infectious diseases are visited and enquiries made relative to the source of infection and general home conditions. Recommendations are made and advice given concerning isolation of the case and the care to be exercised by contacts.

Public library books from infected premises are disinfected by the health department before being returned to the library for re-issue. Books in an unserviceable condition are sometimes destroyed by arrangement with the Librarian.

No premises were disinfected during the year.

A standing arrangement with Hindley Urban District Council exists for the transportation and treatment of infected articles requiring steam disinfection.

## RODENT CONTROL

One trained part-time operator is employed on rodent control work.

The following abstract from the Annual Report submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food indicates the nature and extent of work carried out during the 12 months ended 31/3/1959.

|                                                                      | TYPE OF PROPERTY |                 |                                                          |       | AGRICULTURAL |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------------|
|                                                                      | Local Authority  | Dwelling Houses | Non-Agricultural All Other (including business premises) | Total |              |
| Number of properties in District                                     | 10               | 3060            | 150                                                      | 3220  | 40           |
| Number of properties inspected as a result of :—                     |                  |                 |                                                          |       |              |
| (a) Notification ... ..                                              | Nil              | 54              | 6                                                        | 60    | 3            |
| (b) Survey or otherwise ...                                          | 10               | 439             | 132                                                      | 581   | 37           |
| Total inspections carried out including re-inspections ... ..        | 37               | 493             | 138                                                      | 641   | 72           |
| Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by :— |                  |                 |                                                          |       |              |
| (a) Rats                                                             |                  |                 |                                                          |       |              |
| Major ... ..                                                         | Nil              | Nil             | Nil                                                      | Nil   | Nil          |
| Minor ... ..                                                         | 7                | 46              | 4                                                        | 57    | 3            |
| (b) Mice                                                             |                  |                 |                                                          |       |              |
| Major ... ..                                                         | Nil              | Nil             | Nil                                                      | Nil   | Nil          |
| Minor ... ..                                                         | Nil              | 12              | 4                                                        | 16    | Nil          |
| Number of infested properties treated by the L.A. ... ..             | 7                | 58              | 8                                                        | 73    | 2            |
| Total treatments carried out— including re-treatments ...            | 7                | 58              | 8                                                        | 73    | 2            |
| Number of "Block" control schemes carried out ... ..                 | —                | —               | —                                                        | 12    | Nil          |

To coincide with the gradual discontinuation of the State rat and mouse destruction services in respect of agricultural premises, the attention of farmers and others was directed, by means of explanatory leaflets, to their obligations and responsibilities under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, and the Prevention of Damage by Pests (Threshing and Dismantling of Ricks) Regulations 1950.

The services of the Council's rodent operator are now available, upon request, to undertake the destruction of rats and mice on agricultural premises. Charges for such treatments are made on a time and material basis as distinct from contract terms.

The sewers and sewage disposal works were systematically treated also the refuse disposal sites. Rodent control work is carried out under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector in strict conformity with the methods advised by the Ministry. No charge is made for the disinfestation of private dwelling-houses but business premises are charged for treatments on a time and material basis. No legal proceedings were taken under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act during the year. Regular attendances were made at the South West Lancashire Advisory Committee and the fullest co-operative working with Contiguous Local Authorities and other bodies exists.

### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The need for new and adequate public conveniences planned on modern lines for both sexes still exists. The holiday season with its almost continuous stream of traffic through the district more than emphasises the urgency of this need. The Council have considered the provision of new public conveniences to meet the needs of the district.

### RIVERS AND STREAMS

Continuous pollution takes place from both public and private sewage disposal plant. Efforts have been made to reduce the pollution from private premises, and, where necessary, the cleansing of cesspools and septic tanks was carried out by the Council at the owner's expense. The pollution from the public sewage disposal works can only be mitigated by the provision of a new sewerage and sewage disposal scheme to which the Council is giving very serious consideration.

### SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Standish has a water carriage system serving the majority of premises in the district. Areas at Boars Head—Gidlow—part of Wigan Lower Road and the northern portion of Preston Road are unsewered.

The Local Authority maintains two sewage disposal works—at Arbour Lane and Chorley Road—and two sewage farms—at Fairhurst House and Langtree. The Chorley Road works and the sewage farms are grossly overloaded and cannot deal efficiently with the increased influx of recent years. The Arbour Lane works has been so badly disrupted by mining subsidence as to render the effective treatment of sewage thereat impracticable. The sewerage system for Standish Lower Ground discharges into the trunk sewer of Wigan Corporation.

A scheme for the improvement of the sewerage and sewage disposal systems is in preparation by the Council's Consultant Engineers. Negotiations with Wigan Corporation are proceeding with a

view to that authority accepting and treating the domestic sewage and trade waste from the Urban District.

## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING SITES

A Licence to erect or station and use a Moveable Dwelling on land within the Urban District has been granted in two instances. No site licences have been issued. The use of caravans and similar structures for permanent residence should be discouraged as such so called moveable dwellings do not constitute a suitable substitute for a dwelling of traditional construction.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

General observations of works chimneys were made during the year. Pollution of the atmosphere from manufactory and domestic chimneys takes place.

The attention of all industrialists in the Urban District was drawn to the provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956, and The Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations, 1958, which came into force on the 1st June, 1958.

Co-operation with plant managers with a view to reducing pollution of the atmosphere has continued and it is pleasing to record that industrial smoke emissions now rarely exceed the statutory limits.

The steam locomotives of the National Coal Board which operated across the Urban District causing a serious smoke nuisance along the line were replaced by a diesel operated locomotive during the year.

Householders are advised to instal grates of approved type when replacing existing old and obsolete grates with new in an endeavour to reduce pollution of the atmosphere by smoke from domestic sources.

The Council have made the installation of approved heating and cooking appliances in new buildings obligatory by making bye-laws under Section 24 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, which became operative on the 1st October, 1957.

Whilst it does not appear that the Urban District is a "black area" the establishment of Smoke Control Areas will have to be systematically undertaken.

Notice was received of the installation of one new furnace during the year making a total of 12 factory and works chimneys within the Urban District.

The Council is a member of the National Society for Clean Air.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES

No offensive trades are carried on in the district.

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are none in the district.

## SWIMMING BATHS AND BATHING POOLS

There are no Swimming Baths or Pools open to the public in the district.

## SHOPS AND OFFICES

There are 136 shops of various kinds within the Urban District. Assistants are employed in 30 shops and young persons in five of this number.

During the year 275 shop inspections were made and any offences were dealt with satisfactorily by informal action.

The Public Health Inspector is delegated Inspector of Shops by the Lancashire County Council as regards certain provisions enforceable by that Authority.

Conditions in offices are inspected periodically.

## HAIRDRESSING ESTABLISHMENTS

There are seven hairdressing establishments—2 for males and 5 for females—within the Urban District. Communications concerning the hygiene of premises and hairdressing equipment have been sent to all hairdressers.

## FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

Number and particulars of Factories on Register at 31st December, 1958, as per Ministry of Labour and National Service Form 572 (revised):—

|                                                                 |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Factories (Mech.) .....                                         | 20  |
| Factories (Non-Mech.) .....                                     | 5   |
| Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction ..... | 15  |
| Number of Inspections made .....                                | 35  |
| Number of cases in which defects were found .....               | Nil |
| Number of cases in which defects were remedied .....            | Nil |
| Number of written notices served .....                          | Nil |

There are no out-workers within the Urban District. A number of workplaces coming within the provisions of Section 46 of the P.H.A. 1936 are regularly inspected.

## RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

There are no premises registered or licensed under the above Act within the Urban District.

## LICENSED PREMISES

There are 13 public houses within the Urban District.

Systematic inspections are made of the sanitary accommodation at these premises and reports are prepared and submitted to the General Annual Licensing Meeting of the Justices when considering

the granting or renewal of licences under the Licensing Act, 1953, and it is pleasing to record that in this matter full co-operation exists between the Licensing Justices and the Council. By this means considerable structural improvements to sanitary accommodation have been effected at several of the licensed premises.

A Hygiene Code of Practice for public houses which, inter alia, directs particular attention to the cleansing and sterilising of glasses, abolition of lead and other unsuitable beer piping and pumps, cleansing of beer piping and pumps, disposal of drippings and overspill beer and the abolition of spittoons has been formulated and addressed to owners and licensees of all public houses and secretaries and stewards of all clubs within the Urban District by whom it has been well received.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

A total of 404 inspections of food premises and distributors' vehicles of all kinds was made during the year and the importance of attaining and maintaining a high standard of hygiene in relation to food premises and food handling was stressed as in previous years. A persuasive approach to food traders and the practical solution of problems on their own premises has produced considerable improvements in standards previously accepted.

The intention and purpose of food hygiene work is to ensure that clean food is manufactured in and sold from clean premises by clean people and thereby safeguard the consuming public from the dangers and discomforts of food poisoning.

As requested by the Ministry of Health, copies of the new posters with the slogans "For Health's Sake" and "Keep Food Clean" were distributed during July to all food handlers engaged in food businesses within the Urban District.

The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 to 1957, are intended to strengthen the powers of local authorities in securing higher standards of food hygiene throughout the food and catering industries and thereby help in reducing the incidence of food borne disease.

All food premises and the vehicles of food hawkers and itinerant vendors of ice-cream in the district had been inspected and assessed in comparison with the various requirements of The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, and, at the end of the year, considerable further progress in implementing the requirements of the Regulations had been made without resort to formal action or prosecution.

The practice of hawking food is increasing, and, in consequence, foodstuffs which have been hygienically prepared are exposed to all forms of contamination in course of sale and delivery on the streets of the district. No objections can reasonably be taken to the genuine mobile food shop properly constructed and equipped for the purpose, but the use of unsuitable vehicles and makeshift arrangements in this day and age should be prohibited.

Although progress and improvement have been substantial and continuous consequent upon enforcement of the various food laws, it is difficult to visualise that a state of affairs will ever be achieved when it will be possible to relax vigilance. In trying to secure more hygienic conditions in the preparation and handling of food the general public could play a much more effective part than they do at present.

Regular ante-mortem and one hundred per cent post-mortem inspection of all animals slaughtered at the one licensed private slaughterhouse within the district was carried out as detailed in the following table. All inspections were carried out in accordance with the provisions of Memo. 3/meat.

| DETAIL                                                                                                      | Cattle<br>excluding<br>Cows | Cows     | Calves  | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs | Pigs      | Horses |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|---------|-----------------------|-----------|--------|
| Number killed .....                                                                                         | 290 ...                     | 24 ...   | 3 ...   | 1319 ...              | 1239 ...  | Nil    |
| Number inspected .....                                                                                      | 290 ...                     | 24 ...   | 3 ...   | 1319 ...              | 1239 ...  | Nil    |
| <i>All diseases except Tuberculosis<br/>and Cysticerci :—</i>                                               |                             |          |         |                       |           |        |
| Whole carcasses condemned .....                                                                             | Nil ...                     | Nil ...  | Nil ... | Nil ...               | Nil ...   | Nil    |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ<br>was condemned .....                                                | 118 ...                     | 13 ...   | Nil ... | 180 ...               | 128 ...   | Nil    |
| Percentage of the number inspected<br>affected with disease other than<br>Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ..... | 40.68...                    | 54.16... | Nil...  | 13.64...              | 10.33 ... | Nil    |
| <i>Tuberculosis only :—</i>                                                                                 |                             |          |         |                       |           |        |
| Whole carcasses condemned .....                                                                             | Nil ...                     | Nil ...  | Nil ... | Nil ...               | Nil ...   | Nil    |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ<br>was condemned .....                                                | 23 ...                      | 3 ...    | Nil ... | Nil ...               | 13 ...    | Nil    |
| Percentage of the number inspected<br>affected with Tuberculosis .....                                      | 7.9 ...                     | 12.5 ... | Nil ... | Nil ...               | 1.05 ...  | Nil    |
| <i>Cysticercosis :—</i>                                                                                     |                             |          |         |                       |           |        |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ<br>was condemned .....                                                | Nil ...                     | Nil ...  | Nil ... | Nil ...               | Nil ...   | Nil    |
| Carcasses submitted to treatment by<br>refrigeration .....                                                  | Nil ...                     | Nil ...  | Nil ... | Nil ...               | Nil ...   | Nil    |
| Generalised and totally condemned                                                                           | Nil ...                     | Nil ...  | Nil ... | Nil ...               | Nil ...   | Nil    |

The following foods were inspected and voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption :—

| Description of Food                     | Disease or other<br>cause of<br>condemnation | Weight condemned<br>tons cwt.s.qrs.lbs.oz. |    |   |    |    |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----|---|----|----|
| Canned tomato pulp (various brands)...  | Decomposition                                | 38                                         | 14 | 1 | 24 | 0  |
| Canned apricot pulp (various brands)... | Decomposition                                | 14                                         | 7  | 1 | 8  | 0  |
| Canned boiled ham .....                 | Decomposition                                |                                            |    |   | 20 | 11 |
| Canned meat (various) .....             | Decomposition                                |                                            |    | 2 | 1  | 3  |
| Bacon and ham .....                     | Rancidity and bone taint                     |                                            |    | 1 | 16 | 0  |
| Sausages (beef and pork) .....          | Decomposition                                |                                            |    | 1 | 12 | 8  |
| Canned fruit (various) .....            | Decomposition                                |                                            |    | 1 | 27 | 11 |
| Canned vegetables (various) .....       | Decomposition                                |                                            |    |   | 26 | 5  |
| Butter .....                            | Rancidity                                    |                                            |    |   | 4  | 8  |
| Bread .....                             | Staleness                                    |                                            |    |   | 21 | 0  |
| Slab cake .....                         | Mouldy                                       |                                            |    |   | 24 | 0  |
| Biscuits .....                          | Mouldy                                       |                                            |    |   | 2  | 0  |
| Cheese .....                            | Decomposition                                |                                            |    |   | 8  | 5  |
| Jam and marmalade .....                 | Containers damaged                           |                                            |    |   | 4  | 4  |

| <i>Description of Food</i>  | <i>Disease or other<br/>cause of<br/>condemnation</i> | <i>Weight condemned<br/>tons cwt. qts. lbs. oz.</i> |   |  |                  |  |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---|--|------------------|--|
| Canned condensed milk ..... | Decomposition                                         |                                                     |   |  | 15               |  |
| Canned fish .....           | Decomposition                                         |                                                     | 1 |  | 8                |  |
| Tomatoes (fresh) .....      | Decomposition                                         |                                                     | 6 |  | 0                |  |
| Pickles .....               | Container damaged                                     |                                                     |   |  | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ |  |
| Coffee essence .....        | Container damaged                                     |                                                     |   |  | 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  |  |

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53    4    2    14    1

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| <i>Carcases/Organs or<br/>parts condemned</i> | <i>No.<br/>condemned</i> | <i>Disease or other<br/>cause of<br/>condemnation</i> | <i>Weight condemned<br/>tons, cwt. qrs. lbs.</i> |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|

**CATTLE EXCLUDING COWS :—**

|                                             |         |                                   |       |   |   |    |
|---------------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|-------|---|---|----|
| Whole forequarters .....                    | 2       | ... Tuberculosis                  | ..... | 1 | 3 | 4  |
| Heads with tongue .....                     | 2       | ... Tuberculosis                  | ..... |   | 2 | 0  |
| Heads less tongue .....                     | 1       | ... Tuberculosis                  | ..... |   | 1 | 0  |
| Lungs .....                                 | 15      | ... Tuberculosis                  | ..... | 1 | 1 | 8  |
| Livers—whole .....                          | 5       | ... Tuberculosis                  | ..... |   | 2 | 10 |
| Spleens .....                               | 1       | ... Tuberculosis                  | ..... |   |   | 1  |
| Diaphragm or skirts .....                   | 1       | ... Tuberculosis                  | ..... |   |   | 2  |
| Mesenteries/intestines and<br>stomach ..... | 5 (23)  | ... Tuberculosis                  | ..... | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| Heads less tongue .....                     | 2       | ... Actinomycosis                 | ...   |   | 1 | 22 |
| Lungs .....                                 | 2       | ... Abscesses                     | ..... |   |   | 20 |
| Livers—whole .....                          | 35      | ... Distomatosis and<br>Cirrhosis | ..... | 4 | 1 | 14 |
| Livers—whole .....                          | 10      | ... Abscesses                     | ..... | 1 | 1 | 0  |
| Livers—whole .....                          | 4       | ... Necrosis                      | ..... |   | 2 | 0  |
| Livers—whole .....                          | 1       | ... Angiomatosis                  | ..... |   |   | 14 |
| Livers—part .....                           | 64      | ... Cirrhosis                     | ..... | 4 | 0 | 6  |
| Livers—part .....                           | 2 (118) | ... Necrosis                      | ..... |   |   | 16 |

**COWS :—**

|                         |        |                                   |       |  |   |    |
|-------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|-------|--|---|----|
| Heads less tongue ..... | 1      | ... Tuberculosis                  | ..... |  | 1 | 0  |
| Lungs .....             | 2 (3)  | ... Tuberculosis                  | ..... |  |   | 20 |
| Livers—whole .....      | 3      | ... Distomatosis and<br>Cirrhosis | ..... |  | 1 | 14 |
| Livers—whole .....      | 1      | ... Abscesses                     | ..... |  |   | 14 |
| Livers—whole .....      | 3      | ... Angiomatosis                  | ..... |  | 1 | 14 |
| Livers—part .....       | 7 (13) | ... Cirrhosis                     | ..... |  | 1 | 24 |

**SHEEP AND LAMBS :—**

|                    |     |                                   |       |   |   |    |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------------------------|-------|---|---|----|
| Livers—whole ..... | 180 | ... Distomatosis and<br>Cirrhosis | ..... | 3 | 1 | 12 |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------------------------|-------|---|---|----|

**PIGS :—**

|                         |         |                                    |       |   |   |    |
|-------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|-------|---|---|----|
| Heads with tongue ..... | 12      | ... Tuberculosis                   | ..... | 1 | 0 | 12 |
| Plucks .....            | 2 (13)  | ... Tuberculosis                   | ..... |   |   | 14 |
| Heads with tongue ..... | 2       | ... Abscesses                      | ..... |   |   | 20 |
| Plucks .....            | 10      | ... Congestion and<br>Pericarditis | ...   |   | 2 | 24 |
| Lungs with heart .....  | 4       | ... Congestion and<br>Pericarditis | ...   |   |   | 16 |
| Hearts .....            | 8       | ... Pericarditis                   | ..... |   |   | 5  |
| Livers—whole .....      | 87      | ... Parasitic                      | ..... | 3 | 0 | 1  |
| Livers—whole .....      | 13      | ... Cirrhosis                      | ..... |   | 1 | 24 |
| Kidneys .....           | 6 (128) | ... Hydronephrosis                 | ...   |   |   | 2  |

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1    7    3    7

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Grand Total Weight: 54 tons, 12 cwt. 1 qtr. 21 lbs. 1 oz.

The canned tomato pulp is imported by a food canning firm operating in the district and damage during transit or deterioration during storage are the reasons for condemnation.

All condemned meat and other food is disposed of either to non-edible by-product manufacturers or by burying at the Local Authority's refuse disposal sites under the direction and supervision of the Public Health Inspector. All condemned meat is stained green before release to by-product manufacturers.

The following information is given in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular.

**Number of Food Premises (by type of business) in District at end of year:—**

| Type of Business                                                                                        | No. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| General grocers and provision dealers .....                                                             | 45  |
| Greengrocers & fruiterers (inc. those selling wet fish/game/etc.)                                       | 9   |
| Fishmongers (incl. those selling poultry/game/etc.) .....                                               | Nil |
| Meat shops (butchers/purveyors of cooked and preserved meat/tripe/etc.) .....                           | 12  |
| Bakers and/or confectioners .....                                                                       | 5   |
| Fried fish shops .....                                                                                  | 4   |
| Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery/minerals/ice-cream/etc                                         | 6   |
| Licensed Premises/clubs/canteens/restaurants/cafes/snack bars and similar catering establishments ..... | 29  |
| Others .....                                                                                            | 11  |
| <hr/>                                                                                                   |     |
| TOTAL ...                                                                                               | 121 |

Number of above premises where more than one type of classified business is carried on ..... 12

Actual number of food premises ... 109

**Number of Food Premises (by type) registered under the Lancashire County Council (River Board and General Powers) Act, 1938**

| Type of Business                                                                                    | No. registered at 31-12-58 | Number of inspections of registered premises during year |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| (a) Hawkers food storage premises ...                                                               | 2                          |                                                          |
| (b) Sale of ice cream ... ..                                                                        | 31                         | 31                                                       |
| (c) Preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted or pressed or pickled or preserved meat ... .. | 4                          |                                                          |

## **Food Hawkers registered under the Lancashire County Council (River Board and General Powers) Act, 1938 :—**

A variable number of hawkers of meat or meat food products or fish or fruit or vegetables is registered with the Council under the provisions of the above Act.

Regular inspections of the vehicles and food offered or exposed for sale are made and the hawkers' attention drawn to any irregularities found.

## **Ice-Cream :—**

There are no manufacturers of ice-cream within the Urban District. All shop retailers of ice-cream and water-ice are equipped with a modern refrigerator and sell pre-packed products of reputable quality. The only loose ice-cream sold within the area is by itinerant vendors.

## **FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING**

The County Medical Officer of Health has kindly supplied the following details:—

A total of 28 samples was obtained made up of 20 samples of milk and 8 samples of other commodities.

With the exception of one sample of bread (see below) all proved genuine.

A portion of a sliced loaf of bread, which was the subject of a complaint by a customer after purchase, upon analysis was found to contain a part of a used cigarette end which appeared to have been baked into the loaf. The baker was prosecuted, fined £10 and ordered to pay £7 costs.

## **SLAUGHTERHOUSES**

There is one licensed private slaughterhouse within the Urban District where much of the meat consumed by Standish residents is produced. It is pleasing to record that the important work of meat production thereat has operated quite satisfactorily.

It will be necessary to give consideration to implementing the provisions of The Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, and The Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958, made thereunder.

## **SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958.**

*The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958*

The above Act prohibits the slaughtering and stunning of animals except by licensed slaughtermen and requires all animals to be stunned by a mechanically operated instrument prior to slaughter.

The above Regulations are designed to secure humane conditions and practices in connection with the slaughter of animals at slaughterhouses and knackers' yards.

Nine slaughtermen are licensed by the Council to slaughter animals.

### PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This Act provides for a system of licensing and inspection of Pet Shops by Local Authorities. The principal purpose is to enforce reasonable treatment and accommodation of pet animals during their sale or keeping for sale.

There are no Pet Shops within the Urban District.

### MILK AND DAIRIES ADMINISTRATION

The following statistics give some idea of the milk supply of the district at 31st December.

|                                                               |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Milk Producers in the district .....                          | 17 |
| including Tuberculin Tested Producers .....                   | 13 |
| including Producer-Retailers .....                            | 8  |
| including Producer-Wholesalers .....                          | 17 |
| Milk producers outside the district retailing in the district | 3  |

It will be seen from the above figures that the majority of milk producers in Standish now hold licences to produce Tuberculin Tested milk.

The time is not far distant when the producer of undesignated milk will be no more.

#### Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 to 1954 :—

Number of milk distributors registered by the local authority and operating from :—

|                                                    |    |
|----------------------------------------------------|----|
| (a) Dairies in the district .....                  | 1  |
| (b) Shops in the district other than dairies ..... | 31 |
| (c) Premises outside the district .....            | 3  |

#### Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1954 :

|                                                       |   |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Dealers' Licences issued—Tuberculin Tested Milk ..... | 4 |
| Supplementary Licences issued—Tuberculin Tested Milk  | 3 |

#### Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1953 :—

|                                                       |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Dealers' Licences issued—Pasteurised Milk .....       | 9  |
| Dealers' Licences issued—Sterilised Milk .....        | 36 |
| Supplementary Licences issued—Pasteurised Milk .....  | 3  |
| Supplementary Licences issued — Sterilised Milk ..... | 2  |

Fifty-two inspections of milk distributors' premises and vehicles were carried out during the year and time spent on advisory work in connection with clean and safe milk distribution.

The year was notable in that the Urban District was included in Area 8 of the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) (No. 2) Order, 1958, which, with effect from the 1st October, 1958, made compulsory the use of special designations in relation to the retail sales of milk. This was adequate recompense for the action the Council had taken in drawing the attention of the Government Departments to the need for a Specified Area in this part of Lancashire.

### **Milk Sampling :—**

During the year 41 samples of milk were taken for the biological test and all were found free from tuberculous infection.

Twenty-five samples of milk were submitted to the Methylene Blue test and 22 were graded as satisfactory and 3 as unsatisfactory.

Three samples of pasteurised milk were submitted to the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase tests with satisfactory result.

## **PUBLIC CLEANSING**

The Refuse Collection Service provides employment for eleven full-time men—this includes the foreman.

The present vehicle establishment consists of two "Dennis" 10 cubic yard and one "Scammell" 6 cubic yard side-loading refuse collection vehicles.

The petrol driven "Dennis" 10 cubic yard vehicle was involved in a road accident during August damaging it beyond repair, and, as a result, it was replaced during October by a similar vehicle powered by diesel engine. The foreman, who was also involved in the accident, was absent from work for some six months due to multiple injuries.

A difficult period followed this disorganisation, but goodwill and extra effort on the part of the workmen, minimised inconvenience to an understanding public in a remarkable way.

In order to cope more efficiently with the increasing number of properties and other contingencies with which the department has to contend, it was decided to replace in due course the "Scammell" vehicle by a larger and more suitable one.

Except for the interruptions caused by public and general holidays, a weekly collection of refuse was maintained throughout the year.

It is gratifying to record that the service operates efficiently and generally without complaint.

Considerable importance is attached to adequate and regular vehicle maintenance and the working of overtime is discouraged.

With few exceptions no charge was made for the removal of trade refuse. It is correct to point out that much of the trade refuse removed is salvaged and sold and the revenue so produced is greater than that which would accrue from trade refuse charges.

The sand pits at Langtree Hall Farm used for the purpose of refuse disposal have proved very satisfactory and no complaints have been received. It is anticipated that this site will provide disposal capacity for several years.

The refuse tips are regularly treated with bait and insecticide as a precaution against rodent and insect infestations.

The emptying of pail closets was carried out weekly.

The Public Cleansing Depot in Grove Lane is gradually being developed, and, with the envisaged rebuilding of the dilapidated salvage shed, an admirable and useful Public Cleansing and Salvage Depot would result.

The dustbin provision and ownership scheme has been in existence since 1951 and is operating satisfactorily. During the year 317 dustbins were provided out of the General Rate Fund.

Salvage was collected at the same time as the refuse and kept separately for baling and subsequent despatch to Thames Board Mills Limited at Warrington.

The salvage of waste paper has come to be regarded as a permanent and important part of the Public Cleansing Service.

The workmen are rewarded 20 per cent. of all income from the sale of salvaged materials as an incentive to increase collections.

The income from the sale of salvaged materials during the calendar year was :—

|                    |         |          |         |                  |
|--------------------|---------|----------|---------|------------------|
| Waste Paper .....  | 92 tons | 14 cwts. | 2 qtrs. | £734 18 5        |
| Rags and Scrap ... | 3 tons  | 13 cwts. | 3 qtrs. | £ 11 17 0        |
| Totals .....       | 96 tons | 8 cwts.  | 1 qtr.  | <u>£746 15 5</u> |

The cleansing of non-County roads is carried out under the direction and supervision of the Surveyor.

**Anti-litter Campaign.**—The Council has provided a number of litter bins which have been fixed at suitable points in the district. Consideration is being given to acquiring more receptacles but it is a disheartening thought that, because of wanton damage, some will not for long serve the purpose for which they were provided. These are emptied at weekly intervals by the Public Cleansing Department.



